

April 11

GREAT RAFTS OF MACKEREL.

Sighted by Isaac Brown Aloft on Steamer.

Schools Were 75 Miles South of Delaware Breakwater.

Mr. Isaac Brown of this city, who went to the West Indies as one of the crew of sch. Oceanus, which was recently sold out there from this port, arrived home today and brings a story of great rafts of mackerel which he has told to several captains and which is generally believed as Mr. Brown is an old hand at seining and knows mackerel when he sees them.

Mr. Brown says that he was on a steamer bound to New York from the West Indies and that on Wednesday last just before dark and about 75 miles to the southward of the Delaware breakwater he noticed that the birds were solid and receiving permission he went aloft and had not been there long before the mackerel began to show—great rafts of them.

One of these rafts the steamer went right through. Mr. Brown says that for some little time the fish continued to show. The steamer made the breakwater at 11 o'clock that night so he judged the place where he saw the fish to be about 75 miles to the southward of that place. He is emphatic in his statement that the fish were mackerel and that there were great schools of them and myriads of birds.

April 12

DAILY TIMES FISH BUREAU.

To-day's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. Seaconnet, shrs.

Sch. Walter P. Goulart, shors.

Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Seaconnet, haddocking.

Sch. Stranger, shore.

Sch. Genesta, shore.

Sch. Olympia, Rips.

Sch. Mary G. Powers, salt and fresh cod-fishing.

Sch. Theodore Roosevelt, halibuting.

Today's Fish Market.

Board of Trade prices for salt and fresh fish:

Salt fish, handline Georges cod, \$5.00 per cwt. for large, \$4.00 for medium; trawl Georges cod, \$4.25 for large, \$3.25 for medium; trawl Bank cod, \$4.00 for large, \$3.50 for medium; hake, \$1.25; pollock, \$1.25; haddock, \$1.75; large cusk, \$2.50.

Fresh fish, large cod, \$2.25; medium cod, \$1.75; all cod caught to the eastward of La-Have bank, \$2.25, medium \$1.62 1-2; cusk, \$1.75; haddock, \$1.15; hake, 90 cts.; pollock, 70c; snapper codfish, 60 cts.; snapper cusk, 60 cts.

Bank halibut, 10 cts. per pound for white and 8 cts. for gray.

Boston.

Sch. Flora Sears, 14,000 haddock, 2000 cod.
Sch. Etta Mildred, 5000 haddock, 1000 cod, 600 hake.

Sch. Dorothy, 12,000 haddock, 300 cod.

Sch. Manomet, 4000 haddock, 500 cod.

Sch. Louisa Cabral, 15,000 haddock, 300 cod, 200 hake.

Sch. M. Madeleine, 12,000 haddock, 9000 cod.

Sch. Water Witch, 15,000 pollock.

Sch. Rose Cabral, 35,000 haddock, 1000 cod, 500 pollock.

Sch. Ellen C. Burke, 40,000 haddock, 22,000 cod.

Sch. Juniata, 3500 haddock, 200 cod.

Sch. Emerald, 4000 haddock, 1000 cod.

Haddock, \$2.50 to \$3; large cod, \$4 to \$4.50; market cod, \$2.50; pollock, \$3.

April 12

LOBSTERS' FATE.

They Are Certain of Extinction at Present Decline.

Chairman Field Discusses Use of Dogfish as Food.

The outlook respecting the lobster fishery is again made the subject of complaint and warning by the state board of fish and game commissioners in their annual report, submitted to the legislature yesterday afternoon. The report bears the signature of the new chairman, Dr. George W. Field, and calls attention to the importance of deep sea fisheries. Many pages are devoted to hatching, rearing and distribution of game fish.

"If the statistics of the lobster fishery gathered by this commission," the board says, "gave any encouragement of an increase of abundance, there would be cause for satisfaction. Unfortunately, however, the contrary is true; for the figures show conclusively the same old, dreary decadence of supply that has characterized the lobster fishery for many years, and which has gone on with a regularity and irresistible force of the movements of an ice floe.

"If this continues (and there is no present indication of anything else), the outcome, the commercial extinction of the lobster, is as sure to result as day is to follow night. There has been an increase of pots per man, but a falling off in the catch per pot from 33 in 1903 to 28 1-2 in 1905, or a decadence of about 14 per cent. In 13 years there has been a decrease of more than 66 per cent. in the catch of lobsters per pot. Is it necessary to say more?"

The board says that the shellfishing industry suffered a severe blow through the practical destruction of extensive areas suitable for the production of shellfish by the encroachment of sewage and other sources of pollution upon clam and quahog beds. The board calls attention to the inroads made by the dogfish, and discusses again the use for food to which the fish has been put in Newfoundland and other places.

Under the head of new legislation the board again recommends the passage of the bill, which was defeated last year, providing that all lobster meat must be sold and delivered in the shell.

The report says that the present lobster laws are difficult of enforcement, but that fear of the commission's launch Scooter checks the possession of short lobsters in Boston harbor and vicinity.

It recommends the requirement of a permit for the catching of lobsters for sale, and that it may be taken away from those convicted of violating the lobster law.

It is also recommended that the commission be authorized to institute a system of clam propagation.

MONSTER TRIP.

Sch. Masconomo Has the Banner Georges Halibut Fare.

Has 70,000 Pounds Fresh and 30,000 Salt Cod.

The sch. Masconomo, Capt. Isaac Marchant, engaged in Georges halibuting, arrived this afternoon with the banner trip at this kind of fishing of the season and one of the best for years, hauling for 70,000 pounds of fresh cod, 30,000 pounds of salt cod and 1200 pounds of halibut. Capt. Marchant was known to be on good fishing and was expected to have a good trip when he came, but a fare of the size he has brought in shows that he must have struck extra good fishing. Capt. Marchant is a master mariner who has landed good fares before and a man of good judgment and ability. The Masconomo is owned by Cunningham & Thompson.

VESSEL DETAINED.

Sch. Tattler Held at Liverpool on Slight Charge.

Offence Was Committed About Two Years Ago.

No farther reports have been heard confirmatory to the despatch received in regard to the seizure of a vessel at Newfoundland supposed to be sch. Maud M. Story, and it is believed here that there is no truth in the report, or the owner, Capt. Carl C. Young, would by this time have received some word of the same. Up to this forenoon Capt. Young had received no word.

In regard to the despatch about a vessel being seized at Newfoundland, with which craft the despatch said Capt. Solomon Jacobs had something to do at the time, there appears to be no truth whatever, and it appears to have emanated from the fact that sch. Tattler of this port, now bound on a codfish seining trip, which put into Liverpool, N. S., from the fishing ground, Monday, to land one of her crew who was ill, was held there by the Canadian authorities on a charge of violating the regulations, the offence being committed some two years ago, when the vessel, on the way to Newfoundland, touched at Port Mulgrave and the skipper, although entering and clearing his vessel in a proper manner, neglected to report that he landed a passenger at that place. This is the offence for which the vessel is held.

The detaining of the vessel is not expected by the owners, D. B. Smith & Co. of this city, who long ago became aware of the breach of the law which had been committed and have notified their willingness to the authorities at Ottawa to pay the fine which would be imposed and thus save any future detention of the craft. To this the officials informed them the fine could not be imposed until the craft was in their hands, although they appreciated the straightforwardness of the firm in wishing to at once settle for the infraction of the laws.

Consequently when Capt. Geel sailed a few days ago, he was in possession of all the papers pertaining to the case and it is anticipated that as the infraction in this case is not a very serious offence, the vessel will soon be released on the payment of a nominal fine. The attitude of D. B. Smith & Co., the owners of the vessel, when it learned that Canadian laws had been infringed, desiring to make prompt reparation, is most commendable and will no doubt operate in their favor.

A RECORD PRICE.

Capt. Jacobs' Mackerel Brought 50 Cents Each.

The Fish Weighed Over Two Pounds Each.

The fare of fresh mackerel which sch. Veda M. McKown landed at Fortress Monroe night before last arrived at New York yesterday forenoon and the consignee, George T. Moon, soon had them going lively at the record price of 50 cents each, which is believed to be the highest price ever paid for fresh mackerel at Fulton Market. The fish came through in good condition and were beauties, going from two pounds to two and a half pounds each.